



SUPPLEMENTAL APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 CFR § 41.37
Application Serial No. 09/747,651
Attorney Docket No. 031792-0311567

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PATENT APPLICATION OF: Eugene J. Rollins, *et al.*
SERIAL No.: 09/747,651
FILING DATE: December 22, 2000
ATTORNEY DOCKET No.: 031792-0311567
CONFIRMATION No.: 9835
ART UNIT : 3676
EXAMINER MICHAEL J. KYLE
FOR: PRE-FILLING ORDER FORMS FOR TRANSACTIONS OVER A COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

SUPPLEMENTAL APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 CFR §41.37

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 2, 2005, and further to the Request for Reinstatement of the Appeal under 37 CFR § 1.193 filed herewith, Appellants hereby submit this **Supplemental Appeal Brief** under 37 C.F.R. §41.37.

No additional fees are believed to be due. However, the Director is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same to Deposit Account No. 00909 (Ref. No. 031792-0311567).

REQUIREMENTS OF 37 C.F.R. §41.37

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is E-Centives, Inc. by virtue of the assignment recorded at Reel 011680, Frame 0858.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

As recited on page 1 of the Specification, the present application is related to two commonly-assigned patent applications, the contents of all of which in their entirety have been incorporated by reference. The status of these related, co-pending, and commonly-assigned patent applications is set forth below.

1. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/747,656, filed December 22, 2000, entitled: "Providing Navigation Objects for Communications Over a Network." An Appeal Brief was submitted in this application on February 8, 2005. An Examiner's Answer was mailed May 3, 2005, and a Reply Brief and Request for Oral Hearing were submitted on July 18, 2005.

2. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/747,666, filed December 22, 2000, entitled: "Tracking Transactions By Using Addresses In a Communications Network." An Appeal Brief was submitted in this application on June 21, 2004. An Examiner's Answer was mailed September 7, 2004, and a Reply Brief and Request for Oral Hearing were submitted on November 8, 2004. The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences mailed an Order Returning Undocketed Appeal to Examiner on July 12, 2005.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Pending: Claims 1-31 are pending.

Rejected: Claims 1-31 stand rejected.

Allowed: No claims have been allowed.

On Appeal: Claims 1-31 are appealed.

IV. STATUS OF THE AMENDMENTS

No amendments to the claims were submitted subsequent to the final rejection of the claims.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Appellant's invention comprises a system and method for processing requests from a client for electronic documents located at a server. According to an embodiment of the invention, a user request for electronic documents may be received by an intermediary, which retrieves the documents from the server and forwards the documents to the client. For example, the system may include a client device (303) viewing information via a web browser, a web server (306) storing electronic documents, and an intermediary (308) disposed between the client device and web server. *See* Specification *e.g.*, page 9, and Figure 3.

According to an embodiment of the invention, the user request for a document stored on the server is received at the intermediary. The intermediary retrieves the electronic document. The retrieved document may include data fields. The intermediary may generate an updated electronic document updating the data fields based on information associated with the user. In some embodiments, this may include determining

whether the electronic document contains valid user data and if not, revising the electronic document by substituting data values from the user information for the corresponding variables. *See* Specification *e.g.*, pp. 9-10. According to some embodiments of the invention, a tracer image may be used to retrieve information associated with the user. *See* Specification *e.g.*, page 9.

VI. GROUND OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL.

A. Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 8-10, 12-16, 18, 20, 22-24 and 26-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Markus (U.S. patent No. 6,499,042).

B. Claims 3 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Markus '042 in view of Markus et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,490,601).

C. Claims 5, 11, 19 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Markus '042 in view of Godin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,890,138).

D. Claims 7 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Markus '042 in view of Rhoads (U.S. Patent No. 6,285,776).

E. Claims 7 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Appellant regards as the invention.

VII. ARGUMENT

A. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 8-10, 12-16, 18, 20, 22-24, and 26-31 are Patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal*

Bros. V. Union Oil Co. of California, 814 F. 2d 628, 631, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d (BNA) 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 8-10, 12-16, 18, 20, 22-24 and 26-31 are patentable over 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,499,042 to Markus (hereinafter referred to as “Markus ‘042”) for at least the reasons that Markus ‘042 fails to disclose each and every claim element.

1. Independent Claims 1, 15, and 29

As previously set forth in Appellant’s first Appeal Brief, submitted January 7, 2005, Markus ‘042 fails to disclose each and every element of independent claims 1, 15, and 29. *See* Appeal Brief, section (VII)(A). Markus ‘042 fails to disclose at least the feature of claim 1 which recites: “receiving, by an intermediary disposed between the client and the server, a request from the client *for an electronic document located at a first address at the server.*” (*emphasis added*). Independent claims 15 and 29 recite a similar feature.

In the Office Action (hereinafter “Office Action”) mailed May 2, 2005, the Examiner alleges that Markus ‘042 discloses this feature at col. 3 lines 29-31, which states:

After the Document Server returns the requested document in 18, the external entity activates a from auto trigger located in the recently loaded document as shown in 19. The autofill trigger causes the Document Browser to contact the Selective Proxy as depicted by the line marked 20. **col. 3 lines 29-31.**

According to the passage cited by the Examiner, Markus ‘042 does not disclose “receiving, by an intermediary...a request from the client *for an electronic document located at a first address at the server.*” (*emphasis added*). Rather, Markus ‘042 discloses a request for automatically filling out an online form that has already been requested and

received at an external entity. Thus, the request to the selective proxy in Markus '042 is a request for automatically filling out a form, not for “an electronic document located at a first address at the server.” Although the selective proxy may request an online form from a server, Markus '042 does not disclose an entity making a request for a form located at a server and received at the selective proxy. The entity only requests an autofill procedure to be completed. This is not the same as a request for “an electronic document located at a first address at the server.”

Requesting the activation of an autofill trigger is not a request for an electronic document from a server. Furthermore, Markus '042 makes it clear that a document browser requests electronic documents directly from a document browser. *See, e.g.,* col. 2 lines 17-19; col. 3 lines 3-6; and col. 3 lines 24-26.

Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1, 15, and 29 is improper and must be overturned because the reference fails to teach or suggest all of the features of the claimed invention.

2. Dependent Claims 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 18, 20, 23, 26, 30, and 31

Claims 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 18, 20, 23, 26, 30, and 31 depend from independent claims 1 and 15 and add features to one of the independent claims 1 and 15. Therefore, for at least the reasons set forth above, these dependent claims are allowable over Markus '042.

3. Dependent Claims 8 and 22

Claims 8 and 22 depend from independent claims 1 and 15, respectively. These claims are allowable over Markus '042 because of this dependency. Furthermore, dependent claims 8 and 22 recite, among other things, “retrieving, via a post from a server,

information associated with the user.” In the Office Action at page 8 lines 4-5, the Examiner interprets contacting the Selective Proxy in Markus ‘042 to be a post from the server. The Examiner has failed to provide any evidence within Markus ‘042 to support this statement. Markus ‘042 does not show the claim feature for “retrieving, via a post from a server, information associated with the user.” The POST command is commonly understood in the art to be a method for sending typed-in forms for processing. *See, e.g.,* page 35, lines 11-15. It is clear that Markus ‘042 does not disclose the claimed feature of “retrieving, via a post from a server, information associated with the user.” Markus ‘042 does not disclose posting user information from a server. Rather, user information is retrieved directly from an external entity via a login process (e.g., Markus ‘042 at col. 3, lines 30-36), not “via a post from a server,” as claimed.

4. Dependent claims 10 and 24

Claims 10 and 24 depend from independent claims 1 and 15, respectively. These claims are allowable over Markus ‘042 because of this dependency. Furthermore, dependent claims 10 and 24 recite, among other things, “retrieving information associated with the user from a wallet server.” In the Office Action, the Examiner alleges (at page 4, lines 9-10) that the user information in Markus ‘042 is retrieved from the selective proxy. Because the selective proxy contains personal information, the Examiner considers it to be a wallet server. The Examiner, however, fails to provide any evidence within Markus 042 to support this statement. Markus ‘042 discloses that the information associated with the user is retrieved from a user or client via a standard login (e.g., Markus ‘042 at column 3, lines 30-36), not from a wallet server. Therefore, Markus ‘042 does not disclose the features of claim 10 and 24.

5. Dependent claims 13 and 27

Claims 13 and 27 depend from independent claims 1 and 15, respectively. These claims are allowable over Markus '042 because of this dependency. Furthermore, dependent claims 13 and 27 recite, among other things, “determining whether one or more variables include valid user data.” Markus '042 only discloses filling in empty fields, which is not the same as determining whether variables include valid user data, nor is it the same as “revising the electronic document by *substituting* one or more data values from information associated with the user for the one or more variables” (*emphasis added*). In the rejection at page 8 lines 3-6, the Examiner asserts that “a blank field is not valid user data,” and that “Markus '042 fills blank fields with valid user data.” Filling a blank field, however, is clearly not the same as revising by substituting one or more data values. The Examiner has failed to provide evidence within Markus '042 to support the rejection. Additionally, in Markus '042, the external entity, not the server, carries out manual verification to correct and enter new values into the fields. For at least this additional reason, claims 13 and 17 are not anticipated by Markus '042.

6. Dependent Claims 14 and 28

Claims 14 and 28, depend from independent claims 1 and 15, respectively. These claims are allowable over Markus '042 because of this dependency. Furthermore, dependent claims 14 and 28 recite, among other things, the claim feature of, “examining a context in which each of the one or more variables is used in the electronic document,” and “identifying a particular data value from the plurality of data values, wherein the particular data value conforms to the context.” The Examiner alleges that column 3, lines 39-41 of Markus '042 discloses this feature. The cited passage, however, shows empty

form fields being filled out in context of the external entity. This is not the same as examining context of the empty form field within the electronic document nor is it the same as identifying a data value that conforms to the context within the electronic document, as claimed. For at least each of the foregoing reasons the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 is improper and should be reversed.

B. Claims 3, 5, 7, 11, 17, 19, 21, and 25 are Patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In order to establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 985, 180 U.S.P.Q. (BNA) 580, 583 (C.C.P.A. 1974). “All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art.” *In re Wilson*, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 U.S.P.Q. (BNA) 494, 496 (C.C.P.A. 1970).

Additionally, obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 1074, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d (BNA) 1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

1. Claims 3 and 17

Claims 3 and 17 are patentable over Markus ‘042 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,409,601 (hereinafter “Markus ‘601”). The combination of Markus ‘042 and Markus ‘601 fails to address the deficiencies of Markus ‘042 as set forth above. As such, claims 3 and 17 are allowable over Markus ‘042 and Markus ‘601 for at least their dependency on

one of claims 1 and 15.

2. Claims 5, 11, 19, and 25

Claims 5, 11, 19, and 25 are patentable over Markus '042 in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,890,138 to Godin et al (hereinafter "Godin"). Claims 7 and 21 are patentable for *at least* the reasons that: (1) the Examiner relies on non-analogous art for the rejection of claims 7 and 21; and (2) assuming arguendo that the art is not deemed non-analogous, the references, even if combined, fail to disclose, teach, or suggest all of the claim elements.

a. The Examiner Relies on Non-Analogous Art.

The Examiner's reliance on Godin for the rejection of claims 5, 11, 19, and 25 is improper as this reference is non-analogous art to Appellants' claimed invention.

A two step test has been developed to determine whether a particular reference is within the appropriate scope of the prior art. First, it must be determined whether a particular reference is "within the field of the inventor's endeavor." Second, assuming the reference is outside that field, it must be determined whether the reference is "reasonably pertinent to the particular problem with which the inventor was involved." *In re Deminski*, 796 F.2d 436, 230 U.S.P.Q. (BNA) 313 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

Godin is outside the inventor's field of endeavor for at least the reason that the reference does not relate to the relevant field of endeavor. The field of endeavor for claims 5, 11, 19, and 25 relates to the use of an intermediary to facilitate communications in a communications network, and the secure retrieval of electronic documents from a server via an intermediary upon request by a client. Godin, by contrast, is directed to a method for carrying out an auctioning system where users access the auction system by remote

terminals. *See* Godin, *e.g.*, abstract. This is not within the field of endeavor of the inventor.

Furthermore, Godin is not reasonably pertinent to the particular problems with which Appellants were involved. These problems included problems associated with securely processing orders over the Internet, including the completion of order forms and the payment of commissions to shopping applications and portals. Godin, on the other hand, is concerned with problems related to conducting rapid online auctioning. Since Godin is neither in the same field of endeavor as Appellants' invention, nor concerned with solving the same problems, Godin comprises non-analogous art. As such, claims 5, 11, 19, and 25 are allowable.

b. The references, even if combined, fail to disclose, teach, or suggest all of the claim elements.

Claims 5, 11, 19, and 25 are patentable over Markus '042 in view of Godin. In particular, the combination of Markus '042 and Godin fails to address the deficiencies of Markus '042, as set forth above.

Furthermore, claims 5, 11, 19, and 25 recite, among other things, "retrieving information associated with the user from an encrypted wallet cookie." The Examiner acknowledges that Markus '042 fails to disclose this feature and relies on Godin to overcome this deficiency (*see* Office Action, page 6). Godin is directed to an auctioning system providing rapid feedback for a reverse auction process and removes the user from the process once an indication to purchase has been received (*see* Abstract). Godin, does not, however, suggest retrieving information associated with the user from an encrypted wallet cookie. As such, claims 5, 11, 19, and 25 are allowable over Markus '042 and Rhoads for the additional features presented, as well.

3. Claims 7 and 21

Claims 7 and 21 are patentable over Markus '042 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,285,776 to Rhoads ("Rhoads"). The combination of Markus '042 and Rhoads fails to address the deficiencies of Markus '042, as set forth above. Additionally, Rhoads is non-analogous art because it addresses a method of identifying equipment used in counterfeiting banknotes. *See* 1/7/05 Appeal Brief, section (VII)(B). Rhoads does not even address processing orders over the Internet, including completion of order forms. One of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to combine Markus '042 with Rhoads. The Examiner fails to provide evidence of knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a proper motivation as to why it would have obvious to modify the particular system and method of Markus '042 to include the teachings of Rhoads.

Moreover, the references, even if combined, fail to disclose, teach, or suggest all of the claim elements. Claims 7 and 21 recite, among other things, "receiving, via a tracer image, information associated with the user." The Examiner acknowledges that Markus '042 fails to disclose this feature and relies on Rhoads to overcome this deficiency (see page 7 lines 2-3 of Office Action). Rhoads appears to be directed towards preventing counterfeiting of banknotes by inserting forensic tracer data into an image of a banknote when the note is copied (*see* Abstract). Apparently, any printed output from the image will include the tracer data, making it possible to identify the equipment used in its reproduction (*see* column 2, lines 65-67). However, Rhoads does not suggest receiving information associated with the user via a tracer image. As such, claims 7 and 21 are

allowable over Markus '042 and Rhoads for the additional features presented, as well.

C. Claims 7 and 21 Particularly Point Out and Distinctly Claim the Subject Matter as Required Under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 7 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, alleging that the term “tracer image” fails to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter the Appellant regards as his invention. Tracer images are referred to in the Specification in various places, including in the “Background,” at pages 5-6. Tracer images are further described at least at page 26, line 11-page 27, line 24, which describes, for example, a tracer image for tracking transaction attributes to be compared to a cookie in order to determine whether a shopping application may be owed a commission for a transaction. Page 28, lines 6- page 29, line 10 also describes a tracer image included in a merchant order confirmation page so that when tracer image is displayed at a customer’s browser, transaction information is sent to an integrated order mechanism (IOM). The IOM compares transaction data received from the tracer image with a transaction cookie to determine matching information and which, if any, of the shopping applications should receive a commission for the transaction. Other support exists. Thus, Applicant’s Specification provides clear support for a tracer image. Accordingly, the rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

VIII. APPENDIX

- A. EVIDENCE (NONE)
- B. RELATED PROCEEDINGS (NONE)
- C. PENDING CLAIMS

The pending claims (claims 1-31) are provided in the Appendix included herewith.

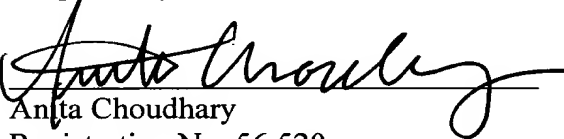
CONCLUSION

For at least the reasons set forth above, each of the rejections should be reversed and the case passed to issue.

Date: **August 2, 2005**

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX C.

1. (Previously Presented) A method for processing requests from a client for electronic documents located at a server, the method comprising the computer- implemented steps of:

receiving, by an intermediary disposed between the client and the server, a request from the client for an electronic document located at a first address at the server, the request made by a user at the client;

retrieving, by the intermediary, the electronic document from the first address;

retrieving, by the intermediary, information associated with the user;

generating an updated electronic document from the retrieved electronic document, said updated electronic document including at least a portion of the information associated with the user; and

providing the updated electronic document to the client for the user in response to the request.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

receiving validation data from the user, and

validating the validation data.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of:

storing the information associated with the user such that the information may be used with one or more other electronic documents.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of:

storing the information associated with the user via an Internet cookie.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of:

storing the information associated with the user in an encrypted format.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein

the electronic document is a web page, and

the updated electronic document is an updated web page generated by an integrated order mechanism.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of retrieving information associated with the user further comprises the step of:

retrieving, via a tracer image, information associated with the user.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of retrieving information associated with the user further comprises the step of:

retrieving, via a post from a server, information associated with the user.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the request from the user is received at an

intermediary, wherein the electronic document is stored on a server, and wherein the step of retrieving the electronic document comprises the steps of:

sending a new request from the intermediary to the server; and

receiving, at the intermediary, the electronic document from the server in response to the new request.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of retrieving information associated with the user comprises the step of:

retrieving information associated with the user from a wallet server.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of retrieving information associated with the user comprises the step of:

retrieving information associated with the user from an encrypted wallet cookie.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the electronic document includes one or more data fields, and wherein the step of generating the updated electronic document comprises the step of:

generating, based upon the electronic document, the updated electronic document by updating the one or more data fields based upon the information associated with the user.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of generating the updated electronic document further comprises the steps of:

determining whether one or more variables included in the electronic document include valid user data; and

when the one or more variables are determined to not includes valid user data, revising the electronic document by substituting one or more data values from the information associated with the user for the one or more variables.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the information associated with the user is comprised of a plurality of data values, wherein the electronic document includes one or more variables, and wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

determining whether each of the one or more variables in the electronic document corresponds to at least one of the plurality of data values;

when each of the one or more variables does not correspond to at least one of the plurality of data values, performing the steps of:

examining a context in which each of the one or more variables is used in the electronic document;

identifying a particular data value from the plurality of data values, wherein the particular data value conforms to the context in which each of the one or more variables is used; and

substituting the particular data value for each of the one or more variables in the electronic document.

15. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium for processing requests from a client for electronic documents located at a server, the computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

receiving, by an intermediary disposed between the client and the server, a request from the client for an electronic document located at a first address at the server, the request made by a user at the client;

retrieving, by the intermediary the electronic document from the first address;

retrieving, by the intermediary, information associated with the user;

generating an updated electronic document from the retrieved electronic document, said updated electronic document including at least a portion of the information associated with the user; and

providing the updated electronic document to the client for the user in response to the request.

16. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, further comprising instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the steps of:

receiving validation data from the user, and

validating the validation data.

17. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, further comprising instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the step of:

storing the information associated with the user such that the information may be used with one or more other electronic documents.

18. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, further comprising instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the step of:

storing the information associated with the user via an Internet cookie.

19. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, further comprising instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the step of:

storing the information associated with the user in an encrypted format.

20. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the electronic document is a web page, and

the updated electronic document is an updated web page generated by an integrated order mechanism.

21. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the step of retrieving information associated with the user further comprises instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the step of: retrieving, via a tracer image, information associated with the user.

22. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the step of retrieving information associated with the user further comprises instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the step of: retrieving, via a post from a server, information associated with the user.

23. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the request from the user is received at an intermediary, wherein the electronic document is stored on a server, and wherein the step of retrieving the electronic document further comprises instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the steps of:

sending a new request from the intermediary to the server; and receiving, at the intermediary, the electronic document from the server in response to the new request.

24. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the step of retrieving information associated with the user further comprises instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the step of: retrieving information associated with the user from a wallet server.

25. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the step of retrieving information associated with the user further comprises instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the step of: retrieving information associated with the user from an encrypted wallet cookie.

26. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the electronic document includes one or more data fields, and where in the step of generating the updated electronic document further comprises instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the step of:

generating, based upon the electronic document, the updated electronic document by updating the one or more data fields based upon the information associated with the user.

27. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the step of generating the updated electronic document further comprises instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the steps of:

determining whether one or more variables included in the electronic document include valid user data; and

when the one or more variables are determined to not include valid user data, revising the electronic document by substituting one or more data values from the information associated with the user for the one or more variables.

28. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the information associated with the user is comprised of a plurality of data values, wherein the electronic document includes one or more variables, and wherein the computer-readable medium further comprises instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the steps of:

determining whether each of the one or more variables in the electronic document corresponds to at least one of the plurality of data values;

when each of the one or more variables does not correspond to at least one of the plurality of data values, performing the steps of:

examining a context in which each of the one or more variables is used in the electronic document;

identifying a particular data value from the plurality of data values, wherein the particular data value conforms to the context in which each of the one or more variables is used; and

substituting the particular data value for each of the one or more variables in the electronic document.

29. (Previously Amended) A system for processing requests from a client for electronic documents located at a server, the system comprising:

an intermediary disposed between the client and the server; and

a server that is associated with an electronic document located at a first address at the server;

wherein the intermediary, in response to a request from the client made by a user at the client for the electronic document, retrieves both the electronic document from the server first address and information associated with the user, and

wherein the intermediary generates an updated electronic document from the retrieved electronic document, said updated electronic document including at least a portion of information associated with the user.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the intermediary is neither the client or the server.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein the intermediary is neither the client or the server.